

NEWS & INFORMATION FROM THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE

Don't let ozone levels take your breath away

For some people, certain days in Charlotte can really take their breath away. Unfortunately, it isn't due to the beautiful weather as much as it is the ozone levels, which are particularly high during the late spring and summer. Ozone, a highly reactive gas, is formed when sunlight mixes with fuel emissions, creating breathing difficulties for children, senior citizens, people with asthma and other respiratory problems and individuals who exercise or work outdoors.

Ozone season begins May 1, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates one out of every three people is at high risk of experiencing problems from ground-level ozone. The Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) wants residents to know what they can do to help make the air easier to breathe for family, friends and neighbors.

Ozone levels are at their worst from May to September. Here in Mecklenburg County, approximately 130,000 residents suffer from asthma each year.

Events surrounding CATS “Clear the Air” campaign encourages everyone to take an active part in keeping our air clear by riding CATS’ buses, vanpools and carpools and taking other actions to improve air quality. People also are urged to walk or bike instead of driving their cars during the hot summer months. In fact, bike riders who utilize the bike racks on the front of CATS’ buses can ride for free May 7 – 13. Other “Clear the Air” activities include:

May 7 – 13

Bikers Ride Free Aboard CATS' Buses

Friday, May 5, 8—9 am

Clear the Air Transportation Fair

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center, 600 E. 4th St.

Thursday, June 22, 11:30 am—1:30 pm

Clear the Air Transportation Fair

Two Wachovia Atrium, 301 S. Tryon St.

To learn more about CATS and its services, please call 704-336-RIDE or visit us on the web at www.ridetransit.org.

Services bill gets facelift

No plastic surgeon was required, and the operation was painless. Starting in May, the City of Charlotte's 260,000 water, sewer and storm water customers will notice the City's Services Bill has received a facelift.

One new feature on the residential bill is a 13-month consumption graph that allows residential customers to track their water usage over the previous year. The feature was added to offer customers a visual tool to help them monitor their water usage patterns from month to month, and encourage water efficiency.

City of Charlotte / Mecklenburg County

Services Bill

Name	JOHN DOE
Mailing	1234 FOREST LANE
Address	CHARLOTTE NC 28200
Service	1234 FOREST LANE
Address	CHARLOTTE NC 28200

Account Number	Parcel
12345-6789101	000-000-00

Bill Summary

Bill Date	11/21/06
Amount Due	\$23.74
Past Due Charges Due	
Past Due Amount Due	
Current Charges Due	12/11/06
Current Amount Due	\$23.74

Water Usage for 13 Months

Month	Usage (cdf)
Oct	8
Nov	7
Dec	10
Jan	7
Feb	6
Mar	5
April	7
May	10
June	10
July	14
Aug	10
Sept	4
Oct	5

PREVIOUS BALANCE	\$32.68
PAYMENT	\$32.68

NEW CHARGES

Water (Includes a \$1.65 Fixed Charge)	\$6.65
Sewer (Includes a \$1.65 Fixed Charge)	\$12.69
Storm Water	\$4.40
TOTAL NEW CHARGES	\$23.74

AMOUNT DUE	\$23.74
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Impervious Area for Storm Water: 2,000 or more square feet
Billing period for Storm Water 10/15/06 - 11/17/06 = 34 days

Meter Readings

	<u>Current Read</u>	<u>Previous Read</u>	<u>(cdf)</u>	<u>Service</u>
Water	10/30/06	324	10/03/06	320
				4
				27

Your water usage for this period that is subject to conservation rates:

Rate Tiers:	1-11 cdf	12-22 cdf	over 22 cdf	Total Usage
Rates per cdf	\$1.25	\$2.04	\$3.96	cdf
Water	4			4
				2,992

Payment Coupon

see reverse side for important information.

Questions about your bill please call 704-336-2211

000076967013087595000009355000001116500

Service	1234 FOREST LANE
Address	CHARLOTTE NC 28200
Current Payment Due Date	12/11/06
Bill Date	11/21/06

Please check box to indicate address / phone changes and Monthly Bank Draft enrollment on the reverse side.

☐

Account Number	Parcel
12345-6789101	000-000-00

JOHN DOE
1234 FOREST LANE
CHARLOTTE NC 28200

CITY OF CHARLOTTE
BILLING CENTER
600 EAST FOURTH STREET
Charlotte, NC 28250-0001

Amount Enclosed

\$

Amount Due

\$23.74

Earth Day Charlotte

Earth Day Charlotte will celebrate the Earth-friendly practices by individuals and organizations in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. The event will feature live music, theater, storytelling as well as hands-on activities and demonstrations that will help Charlotte area residents take personal action in protecting our natural resources such as used oil and antifreeze drop offs, gas cap check replacement, and low-flow shower replacement.

Saturday, April 29, 10 am—4 pm

Marshall Park

For more information call (704) 336-3631 or visit earthday.charmeck.org.

Bike! Charlotte 2006

Bike! Charlotte, May 5—14, is 10 days of bicycle related events and promotions used to encourage families, friends and colleagues to incorporate bicycling into their daily routines.

This year's festivities begin on May 5 with the Mayor's Ride/Bike to Breakfast in Uptown Charlotte. Whether you're a beginner, an avid rider or own a bike that's just been hanging in your garage, there is an event for you during Bike! Charlotte. Most events are FREE.

Visit www.bike-charlotte.org for a full list of activities and events. Park your bikes on CATS buses and ride for FREE from May 7 - 13!

It's Your Community. It's Your Decision.

You're invited to a public meeting about the proposed Northeast Corridor Light Rail Project. Staff will present project alternatives and receive public input. All stations will be discussed; however, specific topics include: Sugar Creek, UNC-Charlotte and I-485/North Tryon.

Monday, May 1, 6—8 pm

University Hilton, Fountainview Room
8629 JM Keynes Drive

Tuesday, May 2, 6—8 pm

Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall
101 West Sugar Creek Road

For more information call Adrienne Boone, Northeast Corridor Community Relations Specialist, at (704) 336-3547 or e-mail her at aboone@ci.charlotte.nc.us.

West Corridor Rapid Transit Project

The Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) invites the community to an open house to see the latest information on the West Corridor Rapid Transit Project.

Monday, May 1, Noon—3 pm and 5—8 pm

West Service Center

4150 Wilkinson Boulevard

Information on display will include alignment alternatives for bus rapid transit (BRT) and streetcar options. Detailed maps illustrating station plans and right-of-way impacts for each alternative will be on hand. CATS' staff will present the alignment alternatives to the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) in June.

